

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated December 5, 2003, claims 1 and 13-28 were pending in this application. Of those claims, claims 13 and 21-23 have been rejected and claims 1, 14-20 and 24-28 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b). Claims 13 and 21 have been amended, and Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

Claims 13 and 21-23 are Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for Obviousness based upon Figures 17 and 18 of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter Admitted Prior Art) in view of Morii, U.S. Patent No. 6,424,394

In the statement of the rejection, the Examiner asserted that it would have been obvious to modify the Admitted Prior Art to include the first and second shading films of Morii to arrive at the claimed invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 13 is directed to a manufacturing process and is supported by the disclosure in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. As shown in Fig. 2, the seal resin is hardened by irradiation of only one side, for example, the upper side of the first substrate 1. In such a situation, irradiation of the lower side of the second substrate 2 is not performed. If the irradiation is to the lower side of the second substrate 2, this irradiation does not reach the seal resin, as the seal resin is shielded from irradiation by the second shade film 3b on the second substrate 2. Claim 13 also recites that the first shade film and second shade film are formed to have a peripheral shading width formed by putting together the width of the first shade film and the width of the second shade film, and this limitation is supported by page 13, lines 16-20 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit that one having ordinary skill in the art would not have arrived at the claimed invention based upon the combined teachings of the Admitted Prior Art in view of Morii. Furthermore, Morii teaches away from the claimed invention. Independent claim 13, as amended, recites "hardening the seal resin by irradiation to only one side of the first substrate of the combination with ultraviolet ray." In the statement of the rejection, the Examiner referred to column 6, lines 45-67 of Morii. However, in column 6, lines 38-40, Morii teaches that both sides are irradiated with light. Therefore, Morii teaches away from the claimed invention.

Applicants also respectfully submit the Examiner has not established that Morii teaches or suggests which one of the two substrates of the Admitted Prior Art would include the first shade film of Morii and which one would include the second shade film. As recited in claim 13, the second shade film, which is the only shade film formed on the outside edge portion of the second substrate, is formed on the second substrate, which includes the electrodes for displaying and the electrode leading wires. Morii, however, is silent as to which shade film should be associated with a particular substrate. Thus, one having ordinary skill in the art would not have arrived at the claimed invention based on the teachings of the Admitted Prior Art in view of Morii.

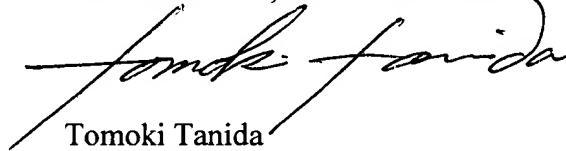
Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. However, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. Accordingly, and in view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Application No.: 09/881,753

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tomoki Tanida", written over the printed name.

Tomoki Tanida
Recognition under 37 C.F.R. 10.9(b)

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